

**RIFA Environmental Monitoring Field Notes  
Environmental Hazards Assessment Program  
Environmental Monitoring and Pest Management Branch  
Department of Pesticide Regulation  
830 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814**

Trip Date: September 29, 1999

Met at RIFA Headquarters, Costa Mesa, with the following attendees:  
John Blasius, Brian Cahill, David Quimayousie, and Basil Ibewiro, CDFA-Pest Exclusion  
Russ Maly, Mohammed Zubaidy and Tina Bogaert, CDFA PDEP  
Nick Nisson, Orange CAC staff  
Richard Iizuka and Dennis Vinopal, LA CAC staff  
Don Schreiber, San Bernardino CAC Staff  
Mayra Cantrell and Matt Abbott, USDA-PPQ  
Kathy Boyle, DPR-ENF  
Dave Kim, DPR-EM/PM

Purpose: Tri weekly CDFA and CAC RIFA project meeting.

Highlights:

- a) Pest Exclusion Costa Mesa: Performed 101 inspections of soil from soil movement, 2 RIFA finds in soil from swimming pool excavations. Have not started compliance monitoring of soil yet (from wholesale nursery). Will have Field Day in Nov. or Dec.
- b) Pest Exclusion Palm Desert: Handed out Golf Course Compliance Agreement (draft). Met with solid green waste recyclers and other groups and will give talk at PAPA meeting. Field Day will be at the College of the Desert late in Oct.
- c) Pest Detection & Eradication Program: Surveying Arcadia. Treating public access areas and will be done with accessible sites in a couple weeks. Heavy RIFA infestation on landscaped slope (groundskeepers refuse to work in infested area) at Alicia and Santa Marguerita. RIFA found ~300 feet from irrigated area, mounds look abandoned but active ~1 foot down. Found RIFA in Bakersfield retail nursery, treated with bifenthrin and baits. Sending city managers RIFA information, to set up RIFA programs.
- d) USDA: Looking for sediment sampling sites. Sites must be 500 ft down stream from nursery. Haven't found any suitable sites yet (cannot be concrete storm drains), will look in southern Orange Co. next. Will also try to sample nursery water wells if in an area with sandy soil.
- e) Orange Co.: Baiting trucks at the border has aided in detecting ants, but no RIFA yet.
- f) LA Co.: Arcadia-survey 2/3 done, isolated to 2 block core, 29 properties. Using potato chips for bait seems to work well and appears to be more selective for RIFA. Cheap oily chips work best.

- g) Pest Exclusion Costa Mesa: Following up on supplier records (2 years) for retail nursery to identify source of infestation. Handed out Protocol for Bulk Soil Movement. Raised questions about nursery's ability to use existing stock of Lorsban. Wants to set up PCO RIFA training, will recommend PCO's with training.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 1999.

DKim 10/1/99